

WARREN COUNTY

New library, extension of sewer system win OK

BY RICK PPIERCE
Of the Post-Dispatch

Warren County will get a new public library, voters decided Tuesday.

The new library will be built on the south end of the city, along Highway 47. The library will cost \$600,000 and will provide four times the space of the existing library.

"We have been hearing from the people of Warren County for the last two or three years: 'When are we going to get a new library?'" said Sallie Hancox, director of the Scenic Regional Library System. "We're just thrilled."

Voters in Warrenton also approved a \$6 million bond issue to expand capacity of its sewer system. Wright City voters approved a \$500,000 bond issue to extend sewer services to a 2,600-acre tract in the southwest part of the city.

In the race for Warren County Ambulance District — subdistrict 1, Joe A. Gilbert Jr. edged out Marie Burke.

In Marthasville, voters elected David Lange mayor in a three-way race. Lange, an alderman, narrowly beat Clifford A.

Byrd Jr. Loretta Faye Davis finished a distant third. Both Byrd and Davis were former aldermen. Lange's mother, Lorena Lange, was re-elected city collector, also in a three-way race.

The new library will cost property owners an extra 4 cents for each \$100 of assessed valuation for the next 10 years. The owner of a home valued at \$70,000, for instance, would pay an extra \$5.32 a year.

The old library takes up the first floor in the Schowengerdt Building, across the street from the Courthouse. The library has been at that site for 38 years. Hancox said the building is no longer adequate: "The county just keeps growing and growing. The new building was sorely needed."

The new library will be built on a 1.75-acre site on the east side of Highway 47. Construction will begin next spring and should be finished by the end of next year.

The Scenic Regional Library system covers Warren, Franklin and Gasconade counties, but the money collected from this tax will go only to the Warren County library.